

The Intelligencer.

WHEELING, W. VA., MARCH 26, 1885.

Published daily (Sundays excepted) by
FRED, CAMPBELL & HART, - Props.

At No. 25 and 27 Fourteenth street.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING.

One copy one year, \$5.00 Three months, \$1.50
Six months, \$2.50 One month, 50 cts.One year, \$5.00 Six months, \$2.50
Three months, \$1.50 One month, 50 cts.Great reduction to Clubs. Sold for sample copy
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FRED, CAMPBELL & HART,
Wheeling, W. Va.[Entered at the Postoffice at Wheeling, W. Va., as
second class matter.]

An Infamous Admission.

If anybody has thought that the In-

telligencer put upon the action of the

Second Branch of Council a meanly par-

tisan interpretation not warranted by the

facts, let him give his attention to this

from the editorial columns of yesterday's

Register.

Council last night disposed of the May-

or's report in relation to the Chief of

Police, by referring it to the Committee on

Elections, where, in all probability, it will

remain until Gabriel sounds his trumpet.

The meaning of this action of the Second

Branch is simply this, That it took no

stock in the charges against Mr. Smith, or

if it did, the Branch preferred to take the

Sergeant at his word and give him a fair

show to do his duty. This was the proper

course to pursue and the Register believes

the Chief will promptly exonerate himself

from any alleged suspicion of neglect of

duty, by a vigorous prosecution of crime

of whatever character, that may exist in

the city, so far as the law made and pro-

vided will sustain him.

This goes even further than the charge

of the Intelligencer that it was the pur-

pose of the City Sergeant's friends to

have him whitewashed. The public is

now informed by the apologist and de-

fender of the City Sergeant that there

will be no investigation at all by the 521

Committee on Elections! The communica-

tion of the Mayor is to remain in that

parisian mien until Gabriel

sounds his trumpet." And a newspaper

which cannot live on the support of the

professional law-breakers and the City

Sergeant, has the effrontery to approve

this infamy.

This, while not only the general

charges, but the two specific charges in

the Healy case, confront at every step the

City Sergeant and his friends. Against

parliamentary usage, against the interests

of the community, against law and

decency and right, the public is told

that "this was the proper course to pur-

sue."

There is not a gambler in this town

who has not more self-respect than to go

before the public in an attitude so grovel-

ing. A more discreet counsel for the de-

fense would not have made so abject an

admission of his client's guilt.

The Flapping of the Wings.

The wings of the Democracy are flap-

ping vigorously, not to say viciously, at

each other. Mr. Waterson, on his way

East, stopping at Pittsburgh, to take "a

hasty plate of soup," was waylaid by a

Commercial-Gazette bandit, who asked him

whether Mr. Carlisle would have opposi-

tion for the Speakership. "As far as my

information goes," replied Mr. Waterson,

"he will have no Democratic opposition."

"I have not heard that Mr. Randall con-

templates standing for the nomination for

the Speakership."

Taken in connection with what fol-

lowed about Mr. Randall, and Mr. Wat-

erson's known love for the Pennsylvania

protectionist, this is sarcasm of a highly

refined order. Mr. Carlisle will have no

Democratic opposition, but the Able Ed-

itor doesn't know what Mr. Randall may

be doing about that time. Mr. Waterson

has read Mr. Randall out of the party be-

fore this, but in this day of reform and

"era of good feeling," such cross-grained

insinuations grate harshly upon the patri-

ot's delicate ear.

As a sort of parting shot Mr. Waterson

said of Mr. Randall: "I knew him thirty

years ago, when I went to school in Phila-

delphia and he loomed around one of the

engine-houses." The thoughtful mind

will naturally picture the possible career

of the dashing Kentuckian if he had been

farsighted enough to put in a considera-

ble part of his early years loitering around

an engine-house.

The melancholy feature of this contin-

ued falling out between two braves of the

party of reform is that Randall is believed

to go about with a telephone in his pocket

and the other of which is hitched to the

President's ear, while Waterson carries

on his person the ignominious imprint of the

President's boot. How are we to hope for

a united party?

MINISTER PHILIPS.

Washington Cor. Cincinnati Commercial-Gazette.

Mr. E. J. Phelps was graduated at Mid-

dlebury College, and went to Burlington

to practice and there married Mrs. Mary

Haight, a very beautiful and refined lady.

He removed to New York and practiced

there several years, but the climate not

agreeing with him, he went back to Bur-

lington, where he has since resided. He

has three children, Edward, George and

John. He is a very successful lawyer, and

has been a member of the New York Bar.

He is a graduate of Yale and was by pro-

fession a civil engineer; Frank Phelps

and Mrs. Horace Loomis, of Burlington.

The Phelps home in Burlington is a very

attractive one. His large and handsome

residence stands in the midst of exten-

sive grounds overlooking Lake Cham-

plain, and in the midst of a scene of

natural beauty almost unrivaled in

New England. While his leadership at

the New England bar has for a long time

been undisputed, he is yet an eminent

and the place for the man. There will be

no retrogradation in the character of our

representation at the Court of St. James

when Mr. Lowell returns to make room for

Mr. Phelps, and that is indeed very high

praise of the new man.

Mr. Phelps comes of Puritan stock,

straight down from the Roundheads and

Naseby, but all his feelings and sympathies

are with the Jacobins, the Huguenots, the

Cavalier. So, with the courage of his

convictions and with contempt of his

leaves and fishes, and to him petty emu-

lations of the politicians, despising the

ambitions of those seeking glory through

the colors and noises of the popu-

lar, and the opinions of the masses, Mr.

Phelps has stood a somewhat solitary

figure as well as a distinguished figure in

Republican Vermont for many years.

Near his residence is that of LeGrand B.

Cannon on outside, and not far away

from George F. Edmunds upon the other

and B. B. Smalley, Secretary of Demo-

cratic National Committee, resides near by.

THE PENITENTIARY.

A Letter From "Democrat" Statistically

Concerning "Fair Play."

Register.

In a communication headed Charleston,

signed "Fair Play," published in the

Register of the 17th inst., the writer says: I

cannot refrain from correcting some of the

false impressions conveyed by "Democrat."

I have taken pains to examine the law

governing the penitentiary and the reports of

its officers, and glean the following facts:

First fact—The expenses are under the

immediate control of the Superintendent.

This is not a fact but a falsehood. The

Board of Directors fix the salaries of the

officers and guards whom they appoint,

and the Board did increase the pay of

eight guards and employees \$5 per

month each, during the present term, an

increased expense of \$1,800 per year over

which the Superintendent has no control,

and the guards truly ought to have more

pay than they now receive. Again the

commissary is under the control of the

Superintendent; he certifies all bills

therefor to the Board for payment

through their treasurer, and if the com-

missary should certify bills advanced fifty

percent over the market value of articles

purchased, the Board could pay those

bills and the Superintendent could not pre-

vent it. Modern instances can be quoted

whenever demanded.

Second fact—Stated by the man who ex-

amined the law and the officer's Report

that during the year 1884 six thousand three

hundred and eighty-four days were lost by

sickness," while a much less number of

days were lost from the same cause in 1880.

Now mark how inexcusable the falsehood

is. Dr. Bruce, after his long and labori-

ous statement, printed on 23d page, Re-

port of 1884, says that the time lost is

two thousand seven hundred and ninety-

seven days.

LAST PUBLISHED REPORT.

Days.

October, 1883, 136

November, 1883, 113

December, 1883, 108

January, 1884, 113

February, 1884, 113

March, 1884, 113

April, 1884, 113

May, 1884, 113

June, 1884, 113

July, 1884, 113

August, 1884, 113

September, 1884, 113

October, 1884, 113

November, 1884, 113

December, 1884, 113

Total, 1,136

Whole number lost during the 12 months, 2,797

The same medical officer above quoted,

in his sworn report gives the number of

days lost by sickness from June 1, 1880,

to June 1, 1881, to be 3,182.

TIME LOST.

Days.

June, 1880, 308

July, 1880, 244

August, 1880, 239

September, 1880, 239

October, 1880, 239

November, 1880, 239

December, 1880, 239

Total, 1,940

Number days lost during the six months, 1,164

Days.

There were lost during the month of

December, 1880, 239

January, 1881, 239

February, 1881, 239

March, 1881, 239

April, 1881, 239

May, 1881, 239

June, 1881, 239

Total, 1,404

Number days lost during six months, 1,418

Total during the twelve months, 3,182

It is an awkward fact that the printed

report of this institution for the year 1880

is only semi-annual, and that above quoted

contains all that ever was published upon

the subject named for that year.

How "Fair Play," sitting in a back office

in Mountville, even if he had the valet

aid of his dapper clerk, ever got it through

his brain that there could be any other

reports of this institution in the city of

Charleston, for the years named, I cannot

comprehend.

The number of prisoners on contract in

1880 was 203; time lost, 5 percent; in 1884

was 217; time lost, 34 percent.

"Fair Play" started out a self-declared

knave of chivalry, to correct the impres-

sions. Does he prove a single fact or

figure stated by "Democrat" to be untrue?

Can truth create false impressions? Does

not the knight falsify every fact quoted

BRITISH CELEBRITIES.

With Especial Reference to Those Who

Come Here for American Money.

London Truth.

People go over to America—good, bad,

and indifferent—to show themselves and

speak a piece. If they have any sort of

name, or have written any sort of book,

or have made themselves ridiculous on

sublime in any sort of way, they expect

an audience and cash. With a little man-

agement and ready money, the lecture

bureau work up a man's reputation, grease

it and try to make it run. Newspaper

cuttings fly about. The great Macfersons,

in London. The great Macs in New York

and will leave for America. Presently he

arrives; he is interviewed; a hall is engaged,

he appears—the attendance is bad; Jones

tries to cheer him, the attendance is worse;

Jones has another sore throat and returns

to England.

Some Goaling poet, who has got hold of

a few press wires, is asked over to dis-

cuss on other poets of the past, and runs

down his cotemporary literature. This

is a yecron or a university lecture-hall

affair; then it dwindles into a sort of

drawing-room business—seats being paid

for by any scratch admirers who can be

got together. Then Goaling comes home,

and writes his book. His friends do not

know exactly how much he is out of

pocket. And sometimes it is a greater

loss than Goaling. A Matthew Arnold, for

instance, thinks it important that Amer-

icans should see him, if not exactly hear

him. Accounts differ, but in one respect

they agree that, excellent as might be the

matter, there was room for improvement

in the manner.

Now that the Americans are getting a

direct of our culture, they have begun

to say so plainly. The fact is that men

with oratorical reputations, who can

always draw a full hall